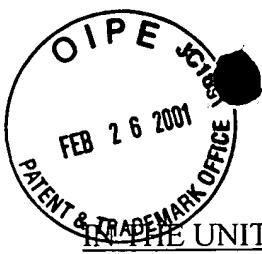


GAU 3653



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

7/13
Ehman
3-2-01

Applicant:	Ryan et al.	Examiner:	Rodriguez, J.
Serial No.:	09/383,508	Group Art Unit:	3653
Filed:	August 26, 1999	Docket No.:	AMDA.389DIV1
Title:	RETICLE SORTER		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the papers, as described hereinabove, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on February 20, 2001.

By: Lynda J. Bauer
Lynda J. Bauer

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED
MAR - 1 2001
TC 3600 MAIL ROOM

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 20, 2000, please consider the following amendment and remarks.

In the Specification

Page 3, line 15, please delete "3C" and insert -- 3B--.

In the Claims

Please add new claims and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A reticle sorter coupled between a reticle storing system and one or more photolithography exposure tools, comprising:
- one or more [locations each capable of] bays adapted for holding a cassette having slots for reticles; and
 - a sorting system [capable of] adapted for retrieving the reticles from and inserting the reticles into the slots in order to sort the reticles within the cassette.

B1